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Summer Agricultural Fairs and Agri-Tourism Blend Fun with Education

BOSTON – Agricultural exhibits, livestock competitions, farm-fresh food, and local crafts are among the attractions visitors can find at approximately 50 agricultural fairs held in cities and towns throughout the Commonwealth now through October.

From major county-wide fairs to smaller community-based or youth fairs, there are dozens of events to choose from throughout the summer. The Massachusetts agricultural fair season wraps up in October with the North Shore's Topsfield Fair, and the Bristol County Agricultural School Fall Show in Dighton.

"Visiting an agricultural fair is a great way for people to have fun while also learning about the vital agricultural community we have here in Massachusetts," said Department of Agricultural Resources (DAR) Acting Commissioner Scott Soares.

Families looking for interesting summer vacations and day-trips can also support Bay State farmers through agri-tourism, Soares said. Massachusetts is home to over 250 agricultural attractions open to the public, including farm tours, farm bed & breakfast accommodations, hayrides, petting zoos, workshops, picnic areas, and more.

For listings of agri-tourism attractions and agricultural fairs, visit [www.mass.gov/massgrown](http://www.mass.gov/massgrown). A Massachusetts Agriculture Tourism map (including locations of state parks and recreational facilities) is available by calling 1-877-627-7476. To receive a paper copy of the Massachusetts Agricultural Fairs Directory, contact Ellen Hart, Massachusetts DAR, 251 Causeway St., Suite 500, Boston, MA 02114, or call 617-626-1742.